

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated April 30, 2002. Claims 8-15 are pending. Claims 8-15 are rejected. Claims 8, 10, 12, 13 and 15 have been amended, and claim 11 has been canceled. New claims 16-28 have been added. Accordingly, claims 8-10, 12-15, and 16-28 remain pending in the present application.

The specification has been amended to cross-reference and claim the benefit of a parent patent. Independent claim 8 has been amended to recite system "for processing and sharing digital images over a network," and to recite that "an email message" is created "that includes a URL associated with the display notifying the recipient that the display is available for viewing." Claim 8 has been further amended to recite that the email message is sent via the communications interface "to the recipient for retrieval at a recipient computer to allow the at least one recipient to view the display using the URL." Dependent claims 10 and 12-15 were amended to provide correct antecedent basis and claim dependencies.

New claims 16-28 have been added to further claim aspects of the present invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 8-15 for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,018,774. A terminal disclaimer is herewith enclosed that overcomes the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 8-15 under 35 USC §103 as being obvious over Wright et al. (US 5,426,594). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The claims of the present application have been amended to include recitations similar to parent Patent 6,018,774 and further includes additional limitations. Because Patent 6,018,774 was issued over Wright, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are also allowable over Wright, for reasons including those previously argued in the parent file wrapper.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 8-10, 12-15, and 16-28 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Applicants' attorney believes this application in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/887,616, filed July 3, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,018,774, issued January 25, 2000, entitled "Method and System for Creating Messages Including Image Information."

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 8, 10, 12, 13 and 15, cancel claim 11, and add new claims 16-28 as follows:

8. (Once Amended) A system for generation of a display including image processing and sharing digital images over a network, comprising:

a server computer having:

at least one CPU,

a storage device,

an input interface for receiving user information from a client computer over the network, and

a communications interface adapted for exchange of information between computers,

the CPU adapted by a program to:

input user information from the input interface, the user information including electronic image data and destination data specifying at least one destination email address of a recipient;

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store the user information in the storage device;
process the electronic image data;
generate the display including at least a portion of the processed electronic image data;
associate an identifier a uniform resource locator (URL) with the display;
create an email message including the identifier that includes the URL associated with the display notifying the recipient that the display is available for viewing; and
send the email message via the communications interface to the recipient for retrieval at least one destination specified by the destination data a recipient computer to allow the at least one recipient to view the display using the URL.

10. (Once Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein the CPU is further adapted to store the display in the storage device and associate the identifier URL with the display stored in the storage device.

12. (Once Amended) The system of claim 11-10 wherein the client computer is connected via the communications interface.

13. (Once Amended) The system of claims 8 or 12-11 wherein the communications interface is a network adaptor for interfacing to a network.

15. (Once Amended) The system of claim 8 wherein the CPU is further adapted to transmit the display associated with the identifier in response to a request from the recipient computer including the identifier received via the communications interface that includes the URL.

16 (NEW) A method for sharing digital images over a network that includes a client computer, a server, and a recipient computer, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) allowing a user of the client computer to upload to the server a digital image, contact information, and an email address of a recipient;
- (b) storing, by the server, the digital image and the contact information;
- (c) in response to the user requesting that the digital image be sent to the recipient, creating an email message that includes a uniform resource locator (URL) associated with the digital image;
- (d) automatically sending the email message from the server to the recipient at the recipient computer, the email message stating that there is an image available on a web site for the recipient and that the image can be viewed by opening the included URL; and
- (e) in response to receiving a request from the recipient computer that includes the URL, displaying the digital image to the recipient for viewing.

17 (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein step (c) further includes the step of: in response to the user requesting that the digital image be sent to the recipient, creating a card key that identifies the digital image.

18 (NEW) The method of claim 17 wherein step (c) further includes the step of: including the

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card key in the URL.

19 (NEW) The method of claim 18 further including the step of: saving the contact information in a card database, and saving the digital image in an image database.

20 (NEW) The method of claim 19 wherein step (b) further includes the step of: storing the digital image in a directory whose name is derived from the card key.

21 (NEW) The method of claim 20 wherein step (c) further includes the step of: receiving the request from a web browser running on the recipient computer.

22 (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein step (a) further includes the step of: creating an electronic postcard from the digital image.

23 (NEW) The method of claim 22 further including the step of: providing the electronic postcard with a front and back, wherein the back of the postcard includes a postmarked stamp.

24 (NEW) The method of claim 23 further including the step of: providing the postmark with a date the postcard was sent and the stamp with an advertisement.

25 (New) A method of sharing image data between a user and a recipient via a server adapted to communicate with a sending computer and a receiving computer, the server executing the steps of:

(f) receiving electronic image data that is transferred under control of the user at the

sending computer, the image data residing in the sending computer or an image source separate from and in communication with the sending computer;

- (g) storing the received image data in a database;
- (h) associating a uniform resource locator (URL) with the stored image data that allows a browser to retrieve the image data;
- (i) receiving at least one email address for at least one recipient from the sending computer;
- (j) including the URL for the stored image data in an email message that states the stored image data is available for viewing; and
- (k) sending the email message to the at least one recipient for retrieval at the receiving computer, whereby the at least one recipient can view the image data using the URL.

26 (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the user uploads the electronic image to the server for a photo contest, and wherein once uploaded, the server sends an electronic notice including the image URL to a judge notifying the judge of entry of the electronic image.

27 (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the user uploads the electronic image to the server where for a baby journal, and wherein once uploaded, the server adds the image to an album and sends an electronic notice including the image URL to one or more recipients inviting the recipients to visit and view the album.

28 (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the user uploads the electronic image to the server where for a family album, and wherein once uploaded, the server adds the image to a family

album and sends an electronic notice including the image URL to one or more recipients inviting the recipients to visit and view the album.

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